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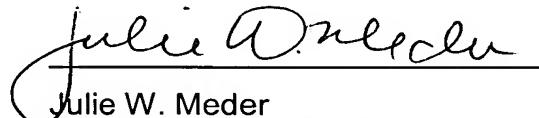
REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 54-74. Claims 1, 2, 4-27 and 9-53 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) for anticipation by U. S. Patent No. 5,932,309 to Smith et al. Claims 3 and 28 have been indicated as containing allowable subject matter. The limitations of claims 3 and 28 (that the matrix is a cross-linked polymer) are incorporated into claims 1 and 26, respectively. As such, claims 1, 2, 4-27 and 9-53 should now also be allowed.

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